

## Fire Fighter Trainee/Paramedic (30198D) and Fire Fighter Trainee (30198E) Exam Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

**Q1: What is the difference between the Fire Fighter Trainee/Paramedic (FFT/PM) exam that posted in December 2018 and the Fire Fighter Trainee (FFT) exam currently posted?**

**A:** *The difference is that the FFT/PM exam required a Paramedic license, while the FFT exam requires an EMT certification/license. Specific requirements for both the FFT/PM and the FFT exam can be found in the answer to question 5.*

**Q2: The bulletin for the FFT/PM exam indicated that it contained test parts that may be used in future exams. What does this mean?**

**A:** *This means that if you apply for an exam that uses the same test part(s), your scores from those test part(s) will be automatically transferred to the new exam for 12 months. You will not be allowed to re-take any such test part(s) for at least 12 months.*

**Q3: Will candidates who did not receive a passing score for the FFT/PM exam be allowed to take the currently posted FFT exam?**

**A:** *Although applicants will be allowed to apply for both exams, all scores received on the FFT/PM exam will be transferred to the FFT exam that is currently posted. Unfortunately, candidates who did not pass the FFT/PM exam will not be allowed to re-take the FFT written exam tentatively scheduled for August 29, 2019.*

*Those who successfully passed the written exam for the FFT/PM and apply for the FFT exam currently posted will have their scores automatically transferred. These candidates will not be allowed to re-take the written exam tentatively scheduled for August 29, 2019.*

**Q4: If I submitted an application for the FFT/PM in January 2019, will I need to submit another application for the FFT exam currently posted?**

**A:** *Yes, if you wish to be considered for employment as an FFT, you **must** submit an application in for the currently posted FFT exam.*

**Q5: Are the requirements the same for the FFT exam currently posted, as the FFT/PM exam that posted in December 2018?**

**A:** *No, the requirements are not the same, but are as follows:*

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<b>FFT/PM Exam (December 2018)</b>	<b>FFT Exam (June 2019)</b>
<p>A current and valid Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) certificate or proof of appointment to take the CPAT exam, by submitting a copy of the email from the Firefighter Candidate Testing Center (FCTC) showing that payment was received, your scheduled date, time and location of your appointment. Applicants who do not have a current and valid CPAT certificate, but have an appointment to be tested for a CPAT certificate, may apply to this exam, but will be withheld from the eligibility list until an official copy of a valid CPAT certificate is submitted. Either the CPAT certificate or proof of an appointment must be provided with the application at the time of filing or within fifteen (15) calendar days of submitting your online application.</p>	<p>A current and valid CPAT certification must be provided with the application at the time of filing or by Monday, July 15, 2019.</p>
<p>A valid, non-probationary California Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic (EMT-P) License issued by the State of California Emergency Medical Services Authority that must remain effective for six months beyond the date of appointment, and twelve (12) months of full-time experience as a primary care paramedic running 9-1-1 responses.</p>	<p>One of following non-probationary EMT certification(s)/license <b>must remain current and valid for six (6) months beyond the date of appointment.</b>  <b>A: EMT or Advanced EMT</b> certification issued by an approved California certifying agency/entity;  OR  <b>B: EMT, Advanced EMT, or Paramedic</b> certification issued by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians <b>and a current CPR card</b> equivalent to American Heart Association or Red Cross Basic Life Support (online CPR courses are not accepted);  OR  <b>C: EMT Paramedic License</b> issued by the California Emergency Medical Services Authority.  <b>It is the candidate's responsibility to maintain one of the above listed non-probationary certification(s)/license current and valid for six (6) months beyond the date of appointment;</b></p>

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**

	<p><i>Applicants who do not have one of the EMT certificate(s)/license listed above, but are currently enrolled in a program that will result in obtaining one of the required EMT certification(s)/license, may apply to this examination; however applicants will be withheld from the eligibility list until an official copy of a valid EMT certificate/license is submitted. Applicants must provide proof of current enrollment in a program that will result in obtaining one of the required EMT certificate(s)/license and must include verification that EMT certification(s)/license will be obtained.</i></p> <p><b>NOTE: ALL LICENSE(S); HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS (OR, ITS EQUIVALENT), OR PROOF OF A HIGHER DEGREE; CERTIFICATE(S); AND, IF APPLICABLE, PROOF OF CURRENT ENROLLMENT IN A PROGRAM THAT WILL RESULT IN OBTAINING ONE OF THE REQUIRED EMT CERTIFICATE(S)/LICENSE) MUST BE PROVIDED WITH YOUR APPLICATION AT THE TIME OF FILING, OR BY MONDAY, JULY 15, 2019.</b></p>
<p><i>Twelve (12) months of full-time experience as a primary care paramedic running 9-1-1 responses.</i></p>	<p><i>No experience is required.</i></p>
<p><i>A California driver license before being appointed. Successful candidates for this position will be required to obtain and present a copy of their driving record from the California Department of Motor Vehicles before being appointed. License must not be suspended, restricted or revoked. ANY CANDIDATE WHOSE DRIVING RECORD SHOWS FOUR OR MORE MOVING VIOLATIONS WITHIN THE LAST TWO YEARS WILL NOT BE APPOINTED.</i></p>	<p><i>A California driver license before being appointed. Successful candidates for this position will be required to obtain and present a copy of their driving record from the California Department of Motor Vehicles before being appointed. License must not be suspended, restricted or revoked. ANY CANDIDATE WHOSE DRIVING RECORD SHOWS FOUR OR MORE MOVING VIOLATIONS WITHIN THE LAST TWO YEARS WILL NOT BE APPOINTED.</i></p>
<p><i>A copy of a high school diploma, its equivalent, or a higher degree from an accredited college or university institution. This must be provided with your application at the time of filing or within fifteen (15)</i></p>	<p><i>A copy of a high school diploma, its equivalent, or a higher degree from an accredited college or university institution. This must be provided with your application at the time of filing or by Monday, July 15,</i></p>

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<i>calendar days of submitting your online application.</i>	2019.
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**Q6: What if I have a valid California Paramedic license but not a current EMT?**

**A:** *During the FFT Recruit Academy, an EMT certification will be issued to those candidates who already have a valid California Paramedic license.*

**Q7: When must candidates submit all required documents for the FFT exam?**

**A:** *As indicated on the bulletin, all required documents must be provided with the application at the time of filing or by Monday, July 15, 2019.*

*The exception is the following: Applicants who do not have one of the EMT certificate(s)/license listed in the bulletin, but are currently enrolled in a program that will result in obtaining one of the required EMT certification(s)/license, may apply to this examination; however applicants will be withheld from the eligibility list until an official copy of a valid EMT certificate/license is submitted. Applicants must provide proof of current enrollment in a program that will result in obtaining one of the required EMT certificate(s)/license and must include verification that EMT certification(s)/license will be obtained.*

**Q8: What is the CPAT?**

**A:** *The CPAT is a timed test that measures performance on physical tasks simulating actual physical job duties of Fire Fighters.*

**Q9: Where can an individual obtain information about taking the CPAT?**

**A:** *All relevant information regarding the CPAT can be located on the following website: <https://www.fctonline.org/cpat/>.*

**Q10: Do applicants have to possess the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) certificate within fifteen (15) calendar days from application submission in order to qualify for the FFT exam?**

**A:** **Yes.** *As stated on the bulletin, a current and valid CPAT certificate is required. It is the candidate's responsibility to maintain a current and valid CPAT certification that remains valid until final appointment. CPAT certification is valid for twelve (12) months from the*

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*effective date. CPAT certification must be submitted with the application at the time of filing or by Monday, July 15, 2019.*

**Q11: I do not live in California and have taken the CPAT. How do I know if it will be accepted for the County of Los Angeles?**

**A:** To verify out of state certificates, visit <http://www.iaff.org/HS/Well/statelist.htm>.

**Q12: How do applicants for the FFT exam submit the required documents?**

**A:** As indicated on the bulletin, applicants must provide the required documents at the time of filing by either emailing the documents to [FFTApplicant@fire.lacounty.gov](mailto:FFTApplicant@fire.lacounty.gov) or by faxing the documents to (323) 264-7159.

**Q13: Is a valid California Driver License required at the time of submitting my application?**

**A:** No. A valid California Driver License is not required at the time that you submit your application. However, as stated on the bulletin, a California Driver License is required before being appointed.

**Q14: What will the exam for the FFT consist of?**

**A:** As stated in the bulletin, the FFT exam will consist of two parts as indicated below (Please refer to the bulletin for additional information):

- **Part I:** Candidates will be required to take an in-person, proctored multiple-choice test measuring conscientiousness, managing work pressure, getting along with others and trustworthiness. Part I is weighted at 70%.
- **Part II:** Candidates will be required to take an in-person, multiple-choice test measuring mechanical comprehension, reading comprehension, report interpretation and written expression. Part II is weighted at 30%.

**NOTE:** Only those candidates with a score of 70% or higher on each part of the written test will be placed on the eligible list.

**Q15: How can I prepare for the FFT exam?**

**A:** As stated on the bulletin, the FFT Study Guide and Frequently Asked Questions are available by visiting the County of Los Angeles Fire Department website, or by clicking the following link: <http://www.fire.lacounty.gov/be-a-firefighter/recruitment-exam>.

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**Q16: Will there be a background check and medical exam in order to be appointed to this position?**

**A:** *As stated on the bulletin, successful candidates who are given a conditional offer of employment will be required to complete a criminal background check, including a fingerprint search, followed by a medical exam. A candidate with a conviction history that has a direct and adverse relationship with the duties of the **FFT** position may have his or her conditional offer of employment rescinded and be removed from the certification list pursuant to Civil Service Rule 6.04.*

*In addition, candidates must successfully complete a medical exam and be able to perform all of the essential functions of the **FFT** classification. A candidate who does not successfully complete a medical exam or is unable to perform all of the essential functions of the **FFT** may have his or her conditional offer of employment rescinded and be removed from the certification list pursuant to Civil Service Rule 6.04.*

**Q17: The bulletin states that my EMT certification(s)/license must remain current and valid for six (6) months beyond the date of appointment. My EMT certification(s)/license will expire one month after I submit my application. Will I be disqualified from this exam?**

**A:** *No, you will not be disqualified. Applicants who submit one of the following current, valid, and non-probationary certification(s)/licenses at the time of filing or within fifteen (15) calendar days from application submission will not be disqualified from competing for the exam: (A) EMT or Advanced EMT certification issued by an approved California certifying agency/entity; (B) EMT, Advanced EMT, or Paramedic certification issued by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians and a current CPR card equivalent to American Heart Association or Red Cross Basic Life Support (online CPR courses are not accepted); (C) EMT Paramedic License issued by the California Emergency Medical Services Authority. However, applicants must have a current and valid EMT certificate(s)/license for at least six (6) months beyond the date of appointment in order to be placed in the FFT Recruit Academy. Therefore, if you are given a conditional offer of employment, it is important that you renew your EMT certificate(s)/license.*

**Q18: What is the Paramedic bonus?**

**A:** *The Paramedic Bonus is granted to employees in the classification of Fire Fighter who are regularly assigned to a post paramedic position. A post position is a position requiring constant staffing on a 24-hour basis. An individual post has three shifts to maintain constant staffing. Those employees assigned to a post position receive a 17.9% bonus on top of their monthly base salary. They must obtain and maintain a valid*

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*California paramedic license by the State of California and Los Angeles County local accreditation and complete Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency mandated courses, including EMS Update. You will be eligible for all bonuses applicable to the job duties you are performing (i.e., EMT and Paramedic).*

### **Q19: What will disqualify me from being a Fire Fighter Trainee?**

**A:** *You may be disqualified for various reasons, including, but not limited to: not meeting all of the Selection Requirements listed on the bulletin; having certain felony conviction(s); receiving a dishonorable military discharge; being on probation as directed by a court; and having any Driving Under the Influence (DUI) conviction(s) within two years of your application date.*

### **Q20: How long is my CPAT certification valid for the Los Angeles County Fire Department?**

**A:** *The CPAT certification will remain valid for 12 months from the date of certification.*

### **Q21: How do I apply for Veteran's credit?**

**A:** *Although you can submit your DD214 form at any time during the exam process, the Fire Department highly recommends that you submit a copy of your DD214 form with your application or by Monday, July 15, 2019, for review and consideration for Veteran's credit. For information about the specific conditions to qualify for Veteran's Credit see the FFT bulletin.*

### **Q22: What does the medical exam consist of?**

**A:** *The pre-placement medical evaluation is administered after a conditional offer of employment is made and is designed to determine an applicant's ability to safely perform the essential functions of the job with or without reasonable accommodation. The department complies with its obligations with all local, state and federal laws when making hiring decisions.*

### **Q23: What happens next if I am successful in the exam and my name is placed on the eligible list?**

**A:** *Successful candidates will be placed on an eligibility list in scored bands based on their performance on the exam. Candidates are then selected starting with the highest scored band and will begin the background check and medical exam. Candidates will*

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*remain on the eligibility list for 12 months from the date their names were placed on the list.*

### **Q24: What if I do not have a computer at home to apply for the exam?**

**A:** *For applicants who may not have regular access to a computer or the internet, applications can be completed on computers at public libraries throughout the County of Los Angeles, which can be located by visiting <http://www.colapublib.org/libs>. Applicants may also call 2-1-1 LA County and request the nearest library to their zip code by dialing 2-1-1 or (800) 339-6993.*

### **Q25: What do I do if I am having problems applying online or uploading attachments?**

**A:** *If you are having problems applying online or uploading documents, please visit the on-line application system's FAQs by clicking the link at <http://hr.lacounty.gov/faqs-2/>. You may also email the required documents to [FFTApplicant@fire.lacounty.gov](mailto:FFTApplicant@fire.lacounty.gov) or fax the documents to (323) 264-7159.*

### **Q26: What if I move after I submit my application?**

**A:** *You must provide your updated contact information by email to [FFTApplicant@fire.lacounty.gov](mailto:FFTApplicant@fire.lacounty.gov). Please type "CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATE" in the subject line or by fax at (323) 264-7159. Please also be sure to update your governmentjobs.com profile accordingly.*

### **Q27: Where can I get answers to any additional questions?**

**A:** *For additional questions pertaining to the Fire Fighter Trainee exam, please contact the Exams Section at (323) 838-2239.*

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